

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

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FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 00316

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR VARIOUS GARBLED PORTIONS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN SF WA

SUBJ: SAG RESPONSE TO UNSYG ON NAMIBIA

REF: CAPE TOWN 00315

1. REFTEL CONTAINED TEXT SAG RESPONSE TO SYG ON NAMIBIA. HERewith ARE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS. FOURIE SAID BOTH HE AND FONMIN MULLER FELT THAT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THEM AND SYG IN GENEVA WENT BETTER THAN THEY HAD EXPECTED. THEY FELT THAT SYG, AS DISTINGUISHED FROM STAVROPOULOS, WAS LESS TECHNICAL AND MORE UNDERSTANDING OF PROBLEMS INVOLVED AND MORE DESIROUS OF CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS IN FUTURE.

2. BOTH SAG AND SYG WERE HOPEFUL THAT RELEASE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS TO MEDIA AND OTHERS NOT RPT NOT MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED COULD BE CONTROLLED FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE TO AVOID PRESSURING EITHER SIDE INTO UNTENABLE POSITIONS OR ANY CONFUSION POINTS WHICH THEY COULD SEPARATELY AND INDIVIDUALLY SUPPORT.

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3. SAG DOES NOT RPT NOT FEEL THAT THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY

THAT EVEN THIS FAR MORE FORTHCOMING STATEMENT OF POSITION COULD RECEIVE SUPPORT OF OAU, PRC OR SOVIETS. FOR THIS REASON THEY ARE NOT OVERLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT CONTINUATION OF SYG' S MANDATE. IF, HOWEVER, MANDATE IS CONTINUED, SAG TAKES SAME POSITION AS WE UNDERSTAND DOES SYG-- THAT FUTURE REPORTS CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT BE BASED ON UNREALISTICALLY SHORT, THREE- MONTH PERIOD. THIS IS POLITICALLY TOO DEMANDING ON SAG AND COULD NOT BE ACCEPTED BY THEM.

4. IN DISCUSSING DOCUMENTS IN QUESTION FOURIE REFERRED TO CERTAIN SECIFIC POINTS THAT HE FELT MAY NOT BE AS BROAD AS DESIRED BY SYG BASED UPON DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA:

(A) FOR EXAMPLE, IN MAIN DOCUMENT, PARA 1, REFERENCE TO UN CHARTER IS RESTRICTED TO ARTICLE 1 (2). SYG APPARENTLY DESIRED TO BROADEN THIS TO REQUIREMENTS OF ENTIRE CHARTER AND APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS. SAG FELT THAT THEY COULD ONLY ACCEPT APPLICATION OF RIGHT OF SELF- DETERMINATION COVERED IN SAID ARTICLE 1 (2) AND NOT BROADER AND OPEN- ENDED INTERPRETATION.

(B) IN MAIN DOCUMENT, PARA 3, SECOND SENTENCE, SAG' S PROGRESS WAS TO BE IN CONSULTATION WITH INHABITANTS AND COOPERATION OF SYG. FOURIE' S FEELING IS THAT SYG WOULD PCEFER REVERSE OF THIS-- THAT ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN BY UN IN CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION WITH SAG.

(C) IN MAIN DOCUMENT, PARS 3 AND 4, FOURIE RECOGNIZES SYG WOULD PREFER MORE SPECIFIC TIME- TABLE AND SHORTER ONE THAT THAT PROPOSED. SG' S POSITION, THEREFORE, IS MORE LOOSE AND THOUGH WORDING WOULD NOT PRECLUDE A SHORTER PERIOD (E. E., FIVE YEARS), THEY WOULD NOT BE BOUND BY THIS OR ANY OTHER TIME PERIOD (E. E., TEN YEARS).

5. SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENT ENTITLED " ADDITIONAL MATTERS" INCLUDED TO MEET DESIRE ON PART OF SYG, PARTICULARLY SECTION ON ADVISORY COUNCIL. PARAS 7 AND 8 UNDER THIS SECTION WERE INCLUDED BY SAG HOPEFULLY TO SATISFY SYG' S PROBLEM REGARDING " AUTHENTICITY AND INDEPENDENCE" OF THIS COUNCIL. BY THESE TWO PARAS IT IS SAG' S DESIRE TO FORESTALL POSSIBILITY F CHALLENGING MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
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AS " STOOGES" AND TO ATTEMPT DIGNIFY THIS BODY AS IT EMERGES HOPEFULLY AS EFFECTIVE AND DIRECTING FORCE TOWARDS SELF- DETERMINUTION.

6. COMMENT: I BELIEVE THAT WHAT HAS COME OUT OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN CABINET, FOREIGN MINISTER AND FOREIGN SECRETARY OVER PAST FOUR DAYS IS BROADEST AND MOST FORTHCOMINV THAT COULD REASONABLY BE EXPECTED FROM SAG. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ONLY AFTER CONTINUOUS AND MOST SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS AND URGING

BY FOREIGN MINISTER MULLER. WHILE FOURIE DOES NOT RPT NOT
APPEAR TO BE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT PROBABLE RESULTS OR CONTINUATION
OF SYG' S MANDATE, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT HE REMAINS HOPEFUL
THAT COOLER HEADS WILL PREVAIL AND THAT REALIZATION OF PROGRESS
THAT CN BE MADE UNDER A CONTINUATION OF MANDATE TO SYG WILL
OUTWEIGH ALTERNATIVE. IF MANDATE IS NOT RPT NOT CONTINUED, IT
IS MY BELIEF THAT SAG MAY WELL CONSIDER MATTER CLOSED AND THAT
THEY WILL FEEL THEY HAVE GONE LAST MILE IN DIRECTION THAT MANY
IN SAG FELT FROM BEGINNING WAS WASTED AND FRUITLESS EXERCISE.
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